

They knew the importance of voting and worked to mobilize African-Americans so that they would have the opportunity to exercise this right that so many had fought for. They organized civil rights rallies and boycotts of local businesses and schools to advocate for the underserved and under represented in this country.

Though murdered in 1963, Medgar Evers' legacy lives on through his children and his widow, Myrlie Evers-Williams, who went on to establish the Women's Political Caucus and become the first woman chair of the NAACP Board of Directors.

It is because of these reasons that I am so honored to stand here today in support of this resolution commending Medger Wiley Evers & Myrlie Evers-Williams. It is on their shoulders that I stand.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 17, 2003*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I missed rollcall vote Nos. 276, 277 and 278 on the evening of June 16, 2003. I was traveling in between my District (TX-08) and Washington. My flight was delayed almost 2 hours, causing me to miss the aforementioned votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on all three bills: H.R. 2254, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Colorado Street in Boulder City, Nevada, as the "Bruce Woodbury Post Office Building", H. Con. Res. 220, commending Medgar Wiley Evers and his widow, Myrlie Evers-Williams, for their lives and accomplishments, and S. 703, to designate the regional headquarters building for the National Park Service under construction in Omaha, Nebraska, as the "Carl T. Curtis National Park Service Midwest Regional Headquarters Building".

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 17, 2003*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I regret that a family matter yesterday forced me to miss rollcall votes 276, 277, and 278. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 276-278.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 17, 2003*

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen weather conditions, my flight back to Washington, DC, was unavoidably delayed and I was therefore not able to make it in time for rollcall votes. Had I been present I would have voted: No. 276—"yes"; No. 277—"yes"; and No. 278—"yes."

#### A TRIBUTE TO JEANETTE "JAY" BLACKSHAW

##### HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 17, 2003*

Mr. SCHIFF. I rise today to honor a truly outstanding member of the 29th Congressional District, Mrs. Jeanette "Jay" Blackshaw. For 22 years, Mrs. Blackshaw has dedicated herself to serving the people of the City of Pasadena.

Originally from Chicago, IL, Jay moved to Pasadena, CA in 1968. She and her husband, Bill Blackshaw, have seven children, Julie, Mary Grace, John, Gina, Annie, Peter, Amy, and nine grandchildren.

In 1981, Jay began her service to the City of Pasadena as the District 4 Field Representative for Pasadena Mayor Jess Houston. After Mayor Houston's term ended, she continued as field representative for his successor, Mayor Bill Paparian. Jay currently works for City Councilmember Steve Haderlein. During Jay's tenure with the City of Pasadena, she has assisted in the construction of bike paths throughout Pasadena, the renovation of the Pasadena Senior Center, and the construction of Pasadena's U.S. Marine Reserve Center.

Jay's passion for community volunteerism, especially on behalf of children and education, is evident in the many organizations she has been involved in over the years. As a young mother, she was active in Pasadena's public schools, participating in several Parent Teacher Associations, including serving as PTA Council President. Currently, Jay is a board member of the Pasadena Educational Foundation and Pasadena City College's Community Board.

Some of the other organizations Mrs. Blackshaw participates in are the Pasadena Sister Cities Committee, the Sierra Madre Villa Neighborhood Association, the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), and the Huntington Hospital Community Board. Mrs. Blackshaw is also active in her church, All Saints Episcopal Church, as well as in various political organizations. In 1995, she was honored as a YWCA Woman of Excellence for her steadfast commitment to eradicating racism and improving the lives of the women and children of Pasadena.

Jay will be retiring from her position as Field Representative to Councilmember Haderlein in June of 2003. Although she will be greatly missed by her colleagues at the City of Pasadena, she will continue to be active in the community.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring a remarkable woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Jeanette "Jay" Blackshaw. The entire community joins me in thanking Jay Blackshaw for her continued efforts to make the 29th Congressional District a better place in which to live.

#### A TRIBUTE TO AL DAVIS

SPEECH OF

##### HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 10, 2003*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, this body lost someone very important when we lost Al

Davis. We lost a man who helped fix the course of the House Ways and Means Democrats. We lost a man of ideas and a man of data, a combination that is too uncommon. Al was a man of endless information, which the Committee Democrats used to tack and jibe through the political storms that erupt so often in the Ways and Means Committee.

Al Davis passed away after 56 years of life. I didn't know him well outside of his briefings, his memos, and his witty analysis but I don't think that anyone had to be particularly close to Al to know how much he cared for those who have the least among us. I now know that he loved to go sailing.

Members of Congress are often generalists. Our knowledge is usually a mile wide but only an inch deep. I frequently could not fathom the amount of memory and facts that Al retained. When it came to taxes and our economy, Al Davis increased the depth of my understanding about the issues and how changing public policies would affect working class Americans.

Things move fast in the House and in the Committee on Ways and Means. Members often find themselves confronted with complex and multifarious issues, which can be quite challenging. Al was just the type of person that our committee needed. He liked to linger down in his "engine room" to make certain that the ship and its crew had all it required. Al was a harbor in a tempest. I could go to Al, and he could, within a few sentences, quickly and easily break down a complex issue for me.

Some say that statistics lie and liars use statistics. Al would say that it doesn't have to be that way. Whether it came from the Bush Administration, or elsewhere, Al was not a fan of distorting data for political gain.

Recently during President Bush's campaign to sell another tax cut, the President said that his plan would on average cut everyone's yearly taxes by \$1,083. As soon as President Bush said that, Al quickly rattled off a memo to me correcting the misleading data that was being used by the President. In the memo, Al said that when Bush refers to the "average" tax cut in his proposal, it "is like saying that every farmer in the nineteenth century got the average of a mule, if a few farmers were given a team of draft horses and most farmers got a small dog, instead."

I will miss Al Davis. I will miss his talent, his wisdom, and his humor. But I think that most of all, I will miss the trust that Al invested in Ways and Means Democrats. Al trusted that we would use our best effort to honestly employ the information he gave us to improve the well-being of the average American. We'll sail on without Al. But I feel that, at least for a while, our ship is heading into the wind, and against the tide, because we are without our navigator.

#### HONORING THE SACRIFICE OF JORDAN FERRELL

##### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 17, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, as the battle for freedom rages across the globe, the United States has stepped forward to defend the